



SAIA and Jervis B. Webb Superfund Sites

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region 9 • San Francisco, CA • March 2014

South Gate, California

EPA Begins Investigation of Cleanup of Two Sites Recently Added to Superfund List

On May 10, 2012 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed the Southern Avenue Industrial Area site and the Jervis B. Webb Co. sites in South Gate, CA, on its Superfund List. Due to the proximity of the sites to each other, both sites are being investigated concurrently.

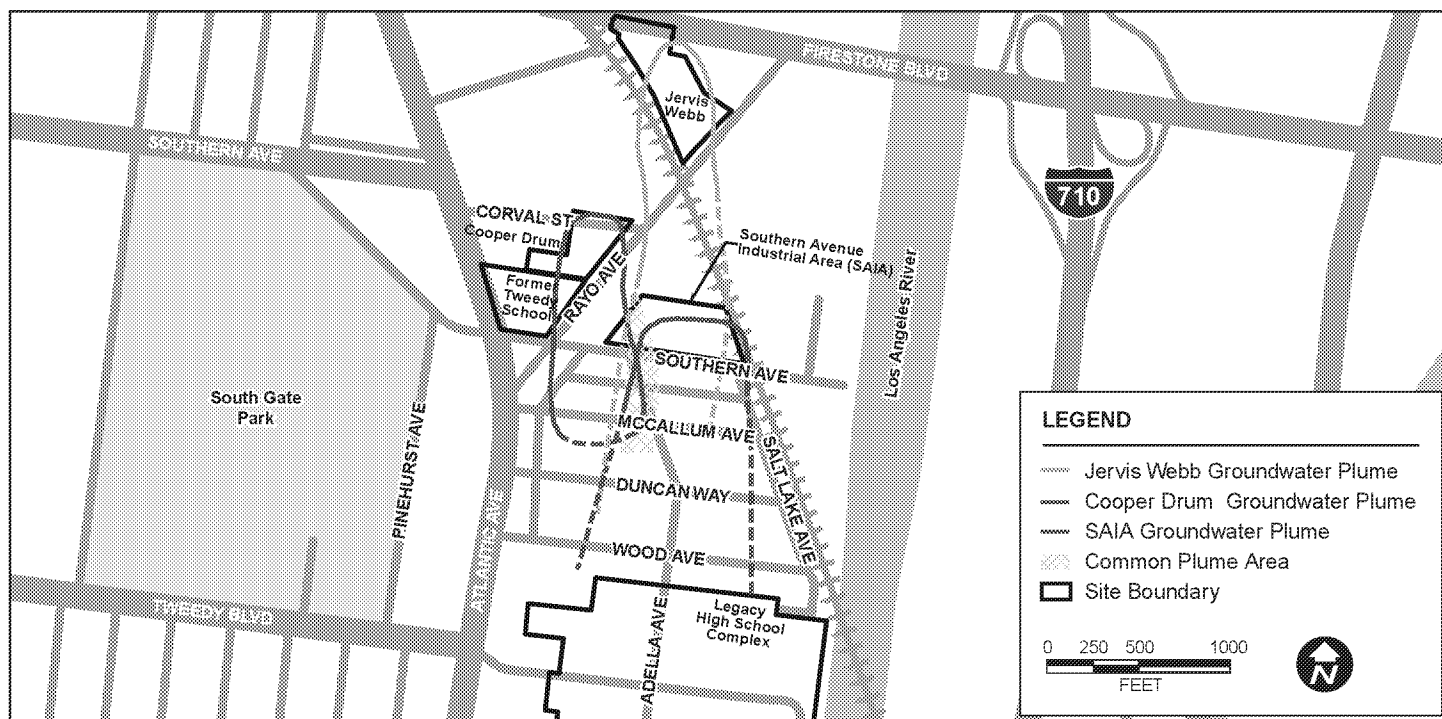
Site Background

Two new Superfund Sites in South Gate have begun environmental investigations to cleanup contamination at the Site (see map below). **Volatile organic compounds**, including elevated levels of trichloroethylene (TCE), a commonly used solvent for cleaning metal parts, have been found in the soils and groundwater at these sites.

The Southern Avenue Industrial Area (SAIA) site was proposed to the NPL under the name Seam Master Industries based on information obtained by the EPA at the time of proposal. Since then, the name has officially been changed to the Southern Avenue Industrial Area.

Since 1972, the Southern Avenue Industrial Area site has been occupied by a facility that manufactures hot-melt adhesive tape for laying carpets. Before 1972, Pacific Screw Products Corporation manufactured screw products at the property until the business went bankrupt. Currently, the buildings on the SAIA Site have been demolished and the property is not in use.

Operations at the Jervis B. Webb Co. site included metal fabrication, finishing, painting and assembly operations associated with the manufacture of industrial conveyor belt systems from the 1950s to 1996 on a portion of the Jervis B. Webb Co. site. The site is currently being used to fabricate steel and steel parts, along with operating an auto pawn company.



What is Next?

Since being named to the Superfund List, EPA has begun its Remedial Investigation (RI) process on these two Sites. The main objectives of the investigation is to identify the nature and extent of the contaminants on the site; define the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination in groundwater; and evaluate the potential for **vapor intrusion** (a process where contaminated vapors may enter buildings over the contamination area) in any buildings and residential areas located on or near the contaminated site and groundwater plume. EPA continues to investigate the potential for vapor intrusion.

Following the completion of the RI, including a **human health risk assessment** that reviews potential health risks from the Sites, a **Feasibility Study** will be conducted to evaluate cleanup methods and treatment technologies for the sites.

EPA will then identify the preferred cleanup remedy and share this in a public meeting, which will be accompanied by a formal public comment period. After all public comments have been considered, EPA will document the selected remedy in a legal document called a **Record of Decision (ROD)**.

Following the ROD, EPA designs and operates any necessary cleanup activities. The public is encouraged to share its issues and concerns throughout the Superfund process.

What is Superfund?

It is the environmental program established in 1980 to address abandoned hazardous waste sites. The process involves the steps taken to assess sites, place them on the National Priorities List, and establish and implement appropriate cleanup plans. To accomplish its mission, EPA works closely with communities, Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), scientists, researchers, contractors, and state, local, tribal, and federal authorities. For more information on the Superfund Program visit www.epa.gov/superfund.

How Can the Community Get Involved?

EPA is committed to involving the public in the cleanup process at the sites. Its Community Involvement Program focuses on answering the community's questions about the cleanup effort, providing information to the community about site activities, and incorporating community issues and concerns into Agency decisions.

EPA organizes its public participation effort through the development of a Community Involvement Plan (CIP). This document identifies issues, concerns, methods of involving the public in the cleanup decision-making process, and other site-related information. EPA is currently looking for ways to improve public participation, please contact the EPA contact below to be interviewed.

To learn more about each Site, please review the web sites at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/saia>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/jerviswebb>

State of California Health Assessment

The Environmental Health Investigations Branch of the California Department of Public Health is currently conducting a Public Health Assessment. The report will assess the potential health hazard from contact with contamination at the Sites, include recommendations on how to reduce exposure to Site contamination, and summarize the State's efforts to determine if any community health concerns could be related to Site contamination. For more information on the Assessment, contact Dr. Gabriele Windgasse at gabriele.windgasse@cdph.ca.gov

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

As part of the EPA Superfund program, EPA offers Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) to assist community groups in interpreting site-related technical information. One group at each Superfund site may obtain one grant for up to \$50,000 in federal funds to be distributed over a three-year period. Some of the eligibility requirements include:

- Incorporated 501(c) 3 non-profits demonstrating current or past interest in the Site
- Able to meet a 20% matching funds requirement (in-kind contributions are permissible), or obtain a waiver of this requirement
- Capable of preparing a plan to use technical assistance parallel with ongoing cleanup activities

For more information about the TAG program, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/>

Or call Jackie Lane, TAG Coordinator at (415) 972-3236.

For More Information

Information Repository

Documents related to the sites are located at:

Leland R. Weaver Library
4035 Tweedy Blvd.
South Gate, CA 90280
(323) 567-8853

EPA Points of Contact

Karen Jurist
Remedial Project Manager
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-7-3
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 972-3219
Fax: (415) 947-3520
jurist.karen@epa.gov

Alejandro Diaz
Community Involvement Coordinator
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-6-3
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 972-3242
Toll Free (800) 231-3075
diaz.alejandro@epa.gov